

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 EB-07 COME-00 SWF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 STR-01 SP-02 HEW-02 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-05

NSAE-00 RSC-01 /038 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:JVMONTVILLE:CFE

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P 132122Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, MO

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN CITRUS SHIPMENT TO U.S.

REF: RABAT 5998

1. DEPARTMENT WAS IN CONTACT WITH U.S. AGENT FOR MOROCCAN CITRUS SHIPMENT, CASTLE AND COOK, MOROCCAN EMBASSY AND USDA, DECEMBER 12. INITIAL PROBLEM REPORTED AS DISCOVERY OF PARASITES IN WOODEN BOXES HOLDING FRUIT. USDA ULTIMATELY REPORTED THAT PARASITES WERE FOUND IN WOODEN PALLETS HOLDING BOXES OF FRUIT AND THAT USDA, IN CONSULTATION WITH CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORS, SINCE SOME FRUIT DESTINED FOR CANADA, AGREED TO CLEAR ENTIRE SHIPMENT OF FRUIT IN ORIGINAL WOODEN BOXES, AS LONG AS WOODEN PALLETS WERE NOT INTRODUCED INTO THE U.S. CASTLE AND COOK REP TOLD DEPARTMENT, DECEMBER 13, THAT MATTER NOW RESOLVED.

2. VERSION OF STORY GIVEN ECON COUNSELOR IN RABAT
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APPARENTLY EXAGGERATED. VALUE OF SHIPMENT WAS PUT

AT DOLS. 750,000 BY CASTLE AND COOK, NOT DOLS. 1.5
MILLION. FURTHER, REP SAID FIRM WAS NOT SUBJECTED
TO QUOTE INTENSE PRESSURE FROM ANTI-ARAB GROUP END QUOTE

BUT RATHER ENCOUNTERED RELUCTANCE IN SOME FOOD
CHAINS TO BUY FRUIT. SEVERAL OTHER CHAINS, HOWEVER,
HAVE BOUGHT FRUIT AND CASTLE AND COOK CONFIDENT THAT
MARKET FOR MOROCCAN CITRUS IN U.S. IS PROMISING.

3. DEPARTMENT HAS ASKED CASTLE AND COOK REP TO INFORM
IT IF ANY OTHER UNUSUAL PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN
MOROCCAN AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS IT MIGHT HANDLE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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